

VANM247.001APC

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant	: Gerdes et al.
Appl. No.	: 09/700,130
Filed	: December 18, 2001
For	: CYTOTOXIN-BASED BIOLOGICAL CONTAINMENT
Examiner	: Patricia Ann Duffy
Group Art Unit	: 1645

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter the following amendment before examination of the application of the merits.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 12 of this paper.